

December 2009
NORTHERN COMMAND

SAFESTAT REPORT

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DPS/Highway Patrol Division

Deputy Chief Brian Sanchez

Overview

In December 2009, the Northern Command experienced a slight increase in total traffic crashes as compared to December 2008. As most December driving months can show, a large number of our traffic crashes can be attributed to inclement weather driving. December 2009 tallied a total of 496 traffic crashes. Out of the month's total crashes, 373 were property damage, 122 were injury, and one was fatal. As compared to last December, our regional commercial vehicle crashes almost doubled this month for a total of 40 crashes. In our overall December 2009 totals, intoxicated drivers were responsible for 16 of our total crashes in the Northern Command.

The officers in our command arrested 93 intoxicated drivers this month. The average blood alcohol level of these intoxicated drivers was, .167%, over double the legal limit of .08% blood alcohol content. The average age of the intoxicated drivers was 36 years old. Our officers arrested another 64 people on various charges over the month of November. In other areas of enforcement, our officers wrote 1,710 speeding citations, 749 hazardous moving citations and 275 seat belt citations.

The Northern Command is always involved in public education and awareness as it relates to hazards to the motoring public. During this month we participated in a multi-agency press conference in Reno to bring awareness to drinking and driving during the holidays. This event was hosted by Scruples Bar and Grill and kicked off a two week campaign of DUI awareness. We hope that these efforts continue to assist our motoring public and we are happy to say, the holidays were fatality free for our command.

Our agency also participated in fund raisers for a local food bank and with the Salvation Army. The men and women of the Northern Command are dedicated to the services they provide in and around our communities.

NORTHERN COMMAND CRASH STATISTICS OVERVIEW

0	Dec 09	Dec 08	% Change	Nov 09	% Change
Total Crashes	496	480	3.3%	278	78.4%
Property Crashes [including commercial vehicles]	373	347	7.5%	215	73.5%
Injury Crashes [including commercial vehicles]	122	128	-4.7%	60	103.3%
Fatal Crashes [including commercial vehicles]	1	5	-80.0%	3	-66.7%
DUI Crashes [DUI charged]	16	23	-30.4%	20	-20.0%
Total persons killed in fatal crashes	1	5	-80.0%	3	-300.0%
Total drivers killed without seatbelts		3	-300.0%		
Total passengers killed without seatbelts		1	-100.0%		
Total drivers killed with seatbelts	1	1		2	-50.0%
Total passengers killed with seatbelts				1	-100.0%
Total persons killed - seatbelts not applicable				1	-100.0%
Total number of commercial vehicle crashes	40	23	73.9%	21	90.5%
Property crashes involving commercial vehicle	33	13	161.5%	18	88.9%
Injury crashes involving commercial vehicle	6	8	-25.0%	2	200.0%
Fatal Crashes Involving Commercial Vehicles		2	-200.0%	1	-100.0%

Crash Analysis

- Percentage of fatal crashes to total crashes 0.2%
- Percentage of DUI crashes to total crashes 3.2%
- Percentage of persons killed without seatbelts to total person killed 0.0%
- Percentage of Commercial Vehicle crashes to total crashes 8.1%

NORTHERN COMMAND FIELD ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY

[Analysis and review of current reporting period, versus same period in previous fiscal year, versus previous reporting period]

	Dec 09		Dec 08	% Change		Nov 09	% Change
DUI arrests from crashes ##	16		23	-30.4%		20	-20.0%
DUI arrests <i>prior</i> to crashes ##	77		93	-17.2%		92	-16.3%
Other Arrests	309		479	-35.5%		479	-35.5%
Total persons arrested (DUI included) ##	157		213	-26.3%		236	-33.5%
Speed violations	1710		1970	-13.2%		2491	-31.4%
Hazardous moving violations	749		655	14.4%		620	20.8%
Occupant restraint violations ##	275		213	29.1%		301	-8.6%
Total violations [above violations included]	4828		5782	-16.5%		6067	-20.4%
Commercial Enforcement							
Hazardous moving violations-citations/arrests	193		36	436.1%		36	436.1%
Other traffic violations - citations/arrests	65		41	58.5%		25	160.0%
Total safety inspections [level 1, 2, 3, 4, & 6]	830		770	7.8%		639	29.9%
Terminal inspections [level 5] CR only						9	-900.0%
Total safety violations -- citation	301		355	-15.2%		355	-15.2%
Total safety violations -- repair order	1973		1870	5.5%		1885	4.7%
Total vehicles placed "Out of Service"	82		104	-21.2%		99	-17.2%
Total drivers placed "Out of Service"	77		98	-21.4%		75	2.7%
Total school buses inspected	217		56	287.5%		84	158.3%
Total school buses placed "Out of Service"	72		86	-16.3%		18	300.0%
Total trucks weighed	165		25	560.0%		493	-66.5%
Total overweight citations	18		343	-94.8%		15	20.0%
Total dyed fuel inspections	280		284	-1.4%		207	35.3%
Total dyed fuel citations			1	-100.0%		1	-100.0%

ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES	Dec 2009	Dec 2008	% Change	Nov 2009	% Change
COMMUNICATION CENTER					
Radio Transmissions from Console	208564	339420	-38.6%	215505	-3.2%
CAD Incidents	18425	17823	3.4%	17591	4.7%
Telephone Calls	18464	19223	-3.9%	15134	22.0%
CAD Logs	145349	146268	-0.6%	149850	-3.0%
FRONT OFFICE					
Accident Reports Processed	356	514	-30.74%	198	79.80%
Arrest Reports Processed	203	220	-7.73%	236	-13.98%
Incident / Officer Reports Processed	7	38	-81.58%	23	-69.57%
Office Accident Reports Taken	26	11	136.36%	8	225%
Citations Processed	2,564	4,478	-42.74%	3,858	-33.54%
Vehicle Impound Releases	0	1	-100%	0	0.00%
Visitors at Counter	167	154	8.44%	158	5.70%
Crash Reports Mailed Out	\$2,371.00	\$503.70	370.72%	\$2,678.50	-11.48%
COURT / WARRANT					
Warrants Received	764	753	1.5%	605	26.3%
Warrants Entered	327	607	-46.1%	332	-1.5%
Warrants Cleared	401	546	-26.6%	454	-11.7%
Warrants Validated	1288	776	66.0%	4619	-72.1%
Extradition / Transports	26	24	8.3%	18	44.4 %

IMPAIRED DRIVER ANALYSIS

Average BAC 0.167 %

Average age of DUI arrestees, 36 years old.

CONTRACT SERVICES

1 contracts using 7.50 hours, billed in the amount of \$511.18

PUBLIC INFORMATION

As we approached the end of 2009, and the end-of-year holiday season, there were many activities taking place in northern Nevada. During the middle of the month we participated in the multi-law enforcement agency press conference in Reno regarding holiday drinking and driving. The two-week long enforcement campaign that followed, coupled with earned and paid media most likely attributed

to a fatality-free holiday season this year on our area's highways. Grant funding secured under the "Joining Forces" grant made it possible for a number of troopers to participate in what's been coined "saturation patrols" along with a DUI checkpoint that was facilitated in Sparks. The saturation patrols allowed troopers to concentrate on specific sections of highway targeting drivers who committed hazardous moving violations or who exhibit driving patterns characterized by someone who may be impaired.

Our agency also participated in a number of fundraisers throughout the region in December to include two separate food drives that took place in our area benefiting the Salvation Army and the local Food Bank. We also participated in the annual "law enforcement bell ringing" event for the Salvation Army. Personnel from DPS volunteered several hours of their time on Saturday, December 19th, ringing the bell for the Salvation Army in at an area Wal-Mart and Sam's Club stores. Our Department received 2nd place this year by collecting just over \$1,146 dollars during the 4-hour event.

We also had the opportunity to deliver two-hour presentations at three different drivers education classes that took place over the school break in Washoe County. Items discussed included common causing accident contributing factors, vehicle safety, driver attention, distracted driving and a simulated DUI enforcement stop with the use of the Fatal Vision goggles.

In closing, the best news to report for the month of December is that Northern Command did not investigate one fatality crash on our region's highways.

FLIGHT OPERATIONS

The Northern Command aircraft made 15 flights during the month of December for a total of 48.1 flight hours. Following is a breakdown of activities.

Total Missions	Flight Hours	% of Flight Time	Description
6	31.9	66	Speed Enforcement
4	7.8	16	Prisoner Transport
2	4.1	9	Pilot Training
1	2.8	6	Personnel Transport
1	1.1	2	Fugitive Search
1	.4	1	Avionics Maintenance

Three days of Badge on Board were conducted December 1, 2, & 3 in conjunction with commercial personnel. Two days were at the Boomtown site and one day was at the Derby Dam enforcement site.

Air 3 was requested to assist RAVEN helicopter and Washoe Co. deputies in a fugitive search in the Verdi area on December 3. The suspect fled on foot when he crashed the stolen car he was driving. He was not located.

On the 10th, the Las Vegas pilot completed his 6-month instrument currency training in Air 3.

The pilot completed his night currency on Dec. 18.

10 speed enforcement missions were scheduled for the month; 6 were flown. 4 missions were cancelled due to inclement weather. A total of 245 enforcement actions were taken. Following is a breakdown of activity.

Type of Violation	Enforcement Actions
Speed	222
Hazardous	5
Non-Hazardous	17
Seat belt	1

During the course of enforcement, 7 motorists were assisted, one misdemeanor warrant arrest was made and one vehicle was impounded. The high speed for the month was a black Dodge pickup clocked on the 2nd on IR 80 near Derby Dam at 92 mph.



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